Open House At Southside Community Hospital Will Be Special Event

An Open House at Southside Community Hospital will be a special feature of the Heart of Virginia Festival. The new 6.8 million dollar patient tower complex will be open for public inspection Saturday and Sunday afternoon from 1-5 p.m., according to J.B. Towler, hospital administrator.

The modern, new patient tower has been under construction for the past two years, representing a major expansion of the hospital which serves a wide area of Southside Virginia, an estimated 80,000 people.

"We are pleased to offer the Open House for this special week end," commented Towler. "It is an excellent opportunity for citizens throughout the area to view their new hospital, which should be a source of pride to all Southside Virginians."

The spacious addition will be totally self-sufficient, said William W. Thompson, hospital spokesman.

Primary areas in the hospital will be named after the counties of Amelia, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Lunenburg, Nottoway, Prince Edward and the town of Farmville.

Occupying the ground floor will be a modern kitchen and cafeteria, a well-stocked pharmacy, housekeeping facilities, central supply and storage.

The first floor of the complex will hold all of the hospital's administrative and comptroller offices. A large lobby, gift shop, records, medical library and a chapel will be housed on the first level also.

The new building is equipped with complete smoke and fire alarm systems that include sensitive detectors, sprinklers, automatic doors and a direct hook-up to the local fice station.

Private Rooms

The second and third floors will house patient rooms. There are a total of 92 patient rooms on the two floors, and all patient rooms are private.

When the transfer of patients takes place later this month, the two floors (plus the center wing of the present hospital building) will contain a total of 137 licensed beds. The present hospital has 104 licensed beds.

Included in the patient rooms will be all new beds and furnishings, a private bath, rental color televisions, telephones and an improved nurse call system.

Thompson stated that present hospital plans call for a per room charge of approximately $96 each day for the private rooms. This, he pointed out, is less than a larger hospital charges for semi-private rooms.

Other modern innovations will be implemented, especially in nursing. The layout of the floors in the new building will allow a team nursing concept to be used.

The concept is designed to be more efficient and provide better patient service. A nurses' station will be located at the center of each floor.

Wider hallways, modern hydraulically-operated (four in all) elevators, wider doors and immediate access to both the Cardiac-Intensive Care Unit, the center wing operating rooms, and obstetric floor will allow patients to be transported easily.

The hospital's center wing, built in 1952, will continue to serve as the surgery suite and obstetric area.

According to Thompson, the patient rooms on the first floor of the center wing will be used for long term care.

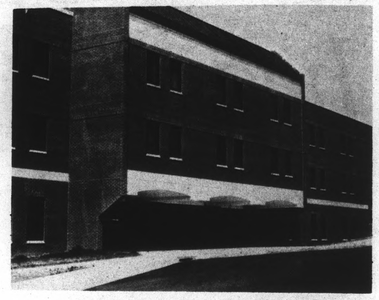
Roy Clark Center

The basement or ground floor of the center wing presently holds the kitchen and cafeteria. This area will undergo extensive renovation in June, converting the area into the Roy Clark Emergency Center. It will replace the current emergency room.

The Hospital's Board of Managers designated the new center in the fall of 1977 to honor Roy Clark, a native of Meherrin.

"Construction on the emergency center will begin around the end of May or the first part of June," said Thompson. "The contract for completion allows 150 days."

The present emergency room area will eventually be used for physical therapy and respiratory therapy.



FRONT VIEW OF NEW PATIENT TOWER

Thompson pointed out that the hospital's X-ray and Laboratory departments will remain in their present ground floor locations. Portable equipment will be used when needed in the new patient tower.

Once the new emergency center is completed, Thompson added, the hospital will have full time doctors available on a 24-hour basis. These doctors will also have a group family practice, he said.

When the planned doctors' office area is completed, the hospital will offer physicians one of the most modern rural medical facilities in the state and that, according to Thompson, would be most beneficial to the community and the community-owned hospital.

"We're trying to attract doctors. The community needs more practing physicians," Thompson said, again referring to the wide area served by the medical facility.

Southside Community Hospital has two primary functions, Thompson noted. They are patient care and continuing education. With the new structure virtually creating a new hospital altogether, those functions will be even better, he surmised.

Dinner Theatre Is First Event Of The Festival

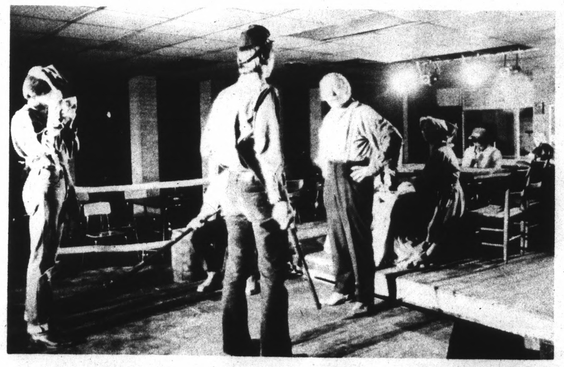
A dinner-theatre production of "Shenandoah", a musical set in the Valley of Virginia during the Civil War, will kick-off the festival.

"Shenandoah" will be produced by the Daniel Players, a community oriented Little Theatre Group sponsored by the John H. Daniel Campus of Southside Virginia Community College, in Keysville.

Friday night's performance at Longwood College will be sponsored by the Farmville Chamber of Commerce for its members and guests. Lt. Governor Charles Robb will attend that event.

Saturday evening's performance will be open to the public. Tickets for dinner and the play may be obtained from Mr. Dudley Sauve.

The Traveling Kingsmen will be one of many groups participating in the Christian Music Program held in conjunction with the Heart of Virginia Festival, on Sunday, May 6 at 3:00 p.m. in Jarman Auditorium, Longwood.



Papa Charlie Anderson played by Dudley Sauve (right) refuses to let his six sons be drafted for the Civil War during a scene from the two act musical "Shenandoah."

Christian Music Program Scheduled

A Christian Music Program in conjunction with the Heart of Virginia Festival will be held on Sunday at 3 p.m. at Jarman Auditorium, Longwood College.

The program is a non-denominational celebration of religious music, open, free of charge to the public.

The program is being promoted by the Cultural Committee of the Heart of Virginia Festival with the help of the Rev. Chester Smith, of the Farmville Ministerial Association.

Willard Pierce of Burkeville will be master of ceremonies for the occasion and many local groups will be participating.

Among the choral groups to participate are: The Contemporary Choir from St. Theresa's Catholic Church, Burkeville Baptist Church Chancel and Junior Choirs, Race Street Junior and Senior Choirs, and the Handbell Choir of Farmville Baptist Church.

Other gospel, duet and solo participants are: Lynne and Drew Stanley, the All Born Again Band, the Allen Sisters — Tina, Connie and Wanda; Traveling Kingsmen and Sister Holmes, V. C. Bozman, soloist; R. Ray Taylor, soloist; Rhonda Arnold and Toby Emert from the Prospect Gospel Tabernacle and Edward Sydnor from Blackstone.

Among the many exhibitors in the Country Crafts Show will be these participants from Piedmont Geriatric Hospital at Burkeville. At rear center is Ms. Beverly Bass, activities supervisor at the hospital and co-chairman of the cultural activities for the Festival.

Country Crafts Feature Local Talents

"It's a dream I've had for years", said Eunice Mottley, extension agent, Home Economics, who is chairman of the Country Crafts Show and co-chairman of the Cultural Activities for the Festival.

"I've always known that our own local people were very talented and I've felt that their work should be featured and at long last that's what we're going to do," Mrs. Mottley continued.

Along with Ms. Beverly Bass, Activities Supervisor, of Piedmont Geriatric Hospital, and co-chairman of the Cultural Activities, Mrs. Mottley has gathered about 40 exhibitors for this interesting show of area talent.

Featured will be woodcrafts, ceramics, pottery, jewelry, macrame, baked goods, jams, jellies, afghans, paintings, quilts, crocheted items and enameled metal flowers. Art students from the local schools will also exhibit their work.

Piedmont Geriatric Hospital is one of the exhibitors in the country crafts show. The hospital conducts 2 workshops and a sewing class for approximately 50 residents there. From these will come foot stools, pillows, rag dolls, paper weights, stuffed animals, and other hand-crafted items.

Piedmont is considered a rehabilitation hospital and involves its residents in the surrounding community. High quality furniture refinishing is done in the workshops plus the almost art of caneing.

"This festival is important to the residents of Piedmont because it means community involvement," said Ms. Bass. "We take going to a festival for granted, but they do not. Including the residents in this constructive manner is another good example of how this community works together for the mutual benefit of all."

Antique Show Featured Saturday, Sunday

This year the 12th annual Prince Edward Academy Band Booster Club Antique Show will be part of the "Heart of Virginia Festival."

The show will be held on Saturday from 11 a.m.-10 p.m. and Sunday from 12 Noon-6 p.m. at Prince Edward Academy.

Dealers from Virginia and Eastern States will exhibit fine furniture, old china, glassware, silver, jewelry, and an interesting line of country furniture. There will also be a book dealer exhibiting.

There will be a jewelry appraisal clinic conducted by Vernon S. Crawford, Jr. of Crawford's Corner Antiques. He is a graduate gemologist of the "Gemological Institute of America, Inc.", New York City. An oral appraisal will be made for a small fee on Saturday, May 5, between 1 and 2 p.m.

Mrs. Nancy Green of Victoria, will be at the show again this year making charcoal sketches, pastel drawings, and work in oil.

Homemade food will be served in a French Cafe setting. The Cafe will be decorated with a mural of Paris done by the school's art class, and with hanging baskets and checked tablecloths.

A free shuttle bus will leave from behind the Municipal building going to the Show on Saturday, starting at 11 a.m. and every hour on the hour until 6 p.m.

Art students of Becky Sherrod at Prince Edward Academy are painting the backdrop for the French Cafe which will be set-up on the stage of the school's gymnasium during the Antique Show and Sale. The show is being held this year in conjunction with the Heart of Virginia Festival.

Jaycees Popular Bluegrass Music Is Festival Highlight

With the spring beginning to turn into summer, the sounds of bluegrass will soon be heard in the warm breezes near Farmville. The Seventh Annual Farmville Jaycee Bluegrass Festival is rapidly approaching.

The festival, which is being held in conjunction with the Heart of Virginia Festival, will be held on Friday night, May 4, and from noon until midnight on Saturday, May 5.

Music will begin Friday night at 7 p.m. and end at 11:30 p.m. Bands playing will be: Both Sides of Grass, Appalachian Express, The Bluegrass Plainsmen, and Harvest.

On Saturday, the festival will begin with the Bluegrass Contest for amateur bands at noon and will run until 6 p.m. Immediately following the festival will conclude with six hours of continuous music with Both Sides of Grass, Appalachian Express, The Bluegrass Plainsmen and The Heights of Grass. Also playing in the evening will be the winner of the contest.

All activities will be held at the Farmville Fairgrounds, located one mile west of Farmville on the old Routes 15 and 460. The show will go on rain or shine since there are indoor facilities available.

"I believe we had about 650 people last year," Festival chairman Keven Lackes said about the event. "We don't have actual figures, but this year we will try to keep an accurate count."

"A couple of the bands will be in town to play at the Heart of Virginia Festival in town. Plus some of the groups have agreed to play on Saturday afternoon during the contest, although they will not be eligible to win," Lackes said.

Sound will be provided by a major recording studio and the winner of the amateur contest will receive $150 and a contract. Second place will be awarded $100 and the third place winner will receive $50.

Plenty of free parking will be available and outside campgrounds will be ready for overnight campers. Campsites will cost $4 for the night. Lackes noted that 33 sites with sewage facilities are available, in addition to those that do not have hook-ups.

A concession stand, to be operated by the Farmville Jayceettes, will be serving food and drinks throughout the two-day event.

Fresh air and bluegrass music will be available for those who will be attending the Seventh Annual Farmville Jaycee Bluegrass Festival. Pictured above is a scene of the crowd enjoying a previous festival. The Festival will be held at the Farmville Fairgrounds Friday and Saturday.

Arts Festival On Longwood Campus

The fifth annual Outdoor Arts Festival co-sponsored by The Farmville Lions Club and The Central Virginia Chapter of The Virginia Museum is being held during the Heart of Virginia Festival week end and will be an integral part of the planned activities.

Miss Martha Pennington, co-chairman of this event along with Robert B. Burger, Jr., has promised this show to be the best yet for the area.

The show will be held under the Rotunda-Colonnade and on the lawn at Longwood College on Saturday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Approximately 70 artists from all over the state will be exhibiting in media ranging from sculpture, painting, pottery, photography, graphics, and many other crafts.

During the day there will be a dance group, music, and poetry readings. Food and coffee will be sold by local organizations. There will be no admission charge.

After judging, over $1500 in prize money will be awarded in the afternoon. There will be a "Discovery Corner", for artists young and old.